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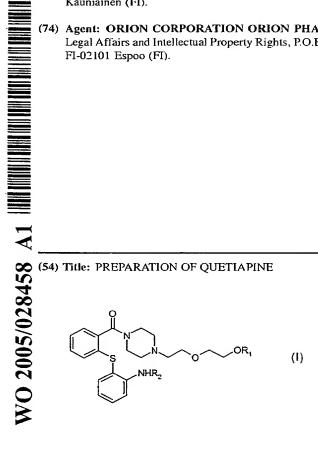
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(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a process for the preparation of quetiapine, which comprises the ring closure of a compound of the formula shown below, as well as novel intermediates in the process.